



MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER TERM 3 2015



SEEKING SOLUTIONS – SOMETHING NEW

Dear Parents / Caregivers

A warm welcome back to Term 3!

We have lots of exciting learning activities based around our topic of Inventions.

Topics

Our main topic for this term will focus on **Technology**. Students will investigate inventions and how they impact upon our lives. We have an exciting trip to MOTAT planned in week 4, August 10 & 11.

In addition, as part of our literacy programme, students will identify and apply the key features of Recount and Persuasive Writing. The teachers and students will be working hard on their visible learning and looking to display examples of their work on our new Middle Team Wiki - <https://spsmiddleteam.wikispaces.com>

In week 1 Reports and Portfolios will come home so you see how your child is progressing with their learning at school. Then, in week 2 we have our parent/teacher interviews to discuss your child's progress.

Our Autumn sports programme continues with a Kiwi Sports focus on gymnastics. We would ask that your child wear the appropriate clothing for these lessons. Our outdoor sports focus for the first 5 weeks will be on cross-country, in preparation for the school cross-country events on Tuesday August 18. In week 8, Friday September 4 we celebrate 30 years of Jump Rope, with a Skipathon. We will finish the term with a focus on large ball skills and team games such as touch, basketball, netball, soccer and hockey.

We would encourage you to continue to support weekly home learning and to help students learn basic facts and times tables at home. Good attendance will also be necessary, as we will be assessing student progress in maths and literacy this term.

Important dates for Middle School this term

- **Friday 24 April – ANZAC service at assembly – Field of Remembrance**
- **Monday 27 April – ANZAC Day – school closed**
- **Monday 4 May– Blu Guru – An insight into Indian music, dance & Culture**
- **Monday 4 May – e-asTTle testing begins for Year 4**
- **Tuesday 5 May – Scooter safety - Senior Constable Michelle Bluemel**
- **Wednesday 6 May – Soccer Promo Day**
- **Monday 11 May – SPELLATHON goes home**
- **Tuesday 12 May – League Years 4 – 6**
- **Tuesday 19 May – “Staying Safe” Vector Energy presentation**
- **Friday 29 May – SPELLATHON testing**
- **Monday 1 June – Queen’s Birthday – school closed**
- **Monday 8 June – ICAS writing preparation**
- **Thursday 11 June – ICAS spelling preparation**
- **Friday 12 June – World of Maths Roadshow**
- **Friday 12 June – School Disco**
- **Monday 15 June – ICAS writing test**

- **Tuesday 16 June – ICAS spelling test**
- **Tuesday 16 & 17 June – Matariki Festival – Wairau Intermediate 7 - 8.30pm**
- **Friday 3 July – MUFTI Day – school ends**

Clubs and Activities

Students can continue to enjoy a range of extra curricular clubs and activities at school. We look forward to seeing them participate and commit to a range of activities. Students are reminded through weekly announcements about these activities so that they know when and where they take place.

General Reminders

- ❖ Please check for letters that come home and on class notice boards for spare newsletters, letters or home learning sheets. School newsletters come home on Thursdays and are also available online and on the School website <http://www.sunnynook.school.nz>
- ❖ Ensure **good attendance** and that your child has all their **stationery** such as pens and pencils, needed for school this term (Refer to Middle stationery list).
- ❖ The school day begins at 8.50 a.m. and it is important that your child is at school on time. Children are welcome to be in the classroom or playground from 8.30 a.m. If your child regularly arrives before 8.30 a.m. it may be best that they are enrolled in the SKIDS before school programme.
- ❖ School finishes at 3 p.m. If you are late picking up your child they will be waiting in the office area. Parents arriving to pick up students for appointments must report to the office, who will call the student from their room.
- ❖ If your child is absent please phone the office to inform the administration staff.
- ❖ Our school field will be in use so there are plenty of opportunities for students to play outdoors. With the wetter weather a change of clothing is recommended.
- ❖ Home Learning will come home on a Monday and is due back on Friday. Home Learning will begin in week 2.
- ❖ Families will need to pay their activity fee so that students can participate in Middle Team trips and activities scheduled for this term. We appreciate your support with the prompt payment of these fees.

Sunnynook Primary School offers support for students who come from a non-English speaking country or household. If your child requires ESOL support, you will receive a letter from the ESOL Co-ordinator Mrs Rhonwen Dewar once the Ministry of Education has processed the funding. Please don't hesitate to contact Mrs Dewar for any concerns or queries. She is based in the office beside Room 1.

Direct dial 449 3002

Mobile 027 257 1045

Email rhonwend@sunnynook.school.nz

We look forward to a successful and settled term.

Kind regards

Rodger Darkens

Team Leader on behalf of the Middle School Teachers:

Carrick Wilson, Debbie Barham, Hannah Gates, Niken Waloejo and Kelley Olsen



